

DAWN JOHNSEN

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, President Obama's appointment to head the Justice Department's Office of Legal Counsel is truly from the far left radical fringe.

Dawn Johnsen, a former attorney for one of the radical abortion groups, is a step back for a President who has claimed he would like to find common ground on the abortion issue. Ms. Johnsen's own quotes speak for her radical views. She has equated pregnancy to slavery when she said that laws restricting a woman's abortion choice "are disturbingly suggestive of involuntary servitude." She has likened pregnant mothers to "no more than fetal containers." She has likened pro-life advocates to "terrorists," calling them "remarkably similar to the Ku Klux Klan."

Her appointment is a slap in the face to all fair-minded persons, not just pro-life Americans. The President should withdraw her nomination or else the Senate should reject it.

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WE MUST PASS THIS BUDGET

(Mr. SIRES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SIRES. Madam Speaker, today I rise to speak to middle-class families facing job loss or shrinking incomes. They may feel left out of the bailouts. That is why I am happy to report that the President's budget will help them by making the \$800 Make Work Pay tax cut permanent; by expanding the child tax credit for millions of families with children; by making college more affordable by making the \$2,500 American opportunity tax credit permanent; by permanently protecting millions of middle-class families from being hit by the AMT; by expanding the earned income tax credit; by expanding the current tax credit for saving for retirement and providing for automatic enrollment in IRAs and 401(k)s; and by eliminating capital gains on small businesses.

The President's budget cuts taxes for 95 percent of Americans, while the budget invests in programs that create jobs, makes education affordable, and encourages clean American energy. It helps the middle class, which is why we must pass this budget.

BUDGET

(Mr. GRAVES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, the President's budget is going to cost Americans trillions of dollars. How does he want to pay for it? By taxing small businesses, the very people who

are responsible for creating 7 out of every 10 jobs.

Many small business owners file their taxes as individuals. So let's be honest about who we're asking to pay for this unprecedented expansion of government. Every dollar we take from small business owners is a dollar that cannot be used to reinvest in their businesses or hire more workers.

The President and his friends in Congress act like they know the needs of small business owners. The President's announcement last Monday to "help" small businesses with SBA loans was a clear example of just how out of touch the President is. According to a recent survey of small business owners, 90 percent of owners said they have never even applied for an SBA loan.

Congress must reject the President's budget which spends too much, borrows too much, and taxes our Nation's hard-working small business owners.

Our job here in Congress is to put the American people back to work, not grow government.

HONORING SERGEANT MATTHEW W. ECKERSON

(Mrs. DAHLKEMPER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. DAHLKEMPER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the service of U.S. Army Sergeant Matthew W. Eckerson from my hometown of Erie, Pennsylvania

I have a picture of Sergeant Eckerson. While serving in Sadr City, Iraq, this 24-year-old was injured after a roadside bomb hit his tank on April 24, 2004. Sergeant Eckerson was no stranger to these kinds of attacks. While serving overseas, he has experienced five other roadside bombings while in a tank or Humvee, attacks which left him with traumatic brain injuries from the blasts. His bravery earned him four Army Medals of Commendation, as well as the Purple Heart.

Sergeant Eckerson is now medically retired from the Army after 6 years of active duty, a total of 33 months served in Iraq from 2004 to 2008. He is currently enrolled at the University of Phoenix, seeking a degree in business management with a concentration in politics.

Madam Speaker, I am so grateful to Sergeant Eckerson for his patriotism and service to our country. This war has affected me personally, and I do not take his service for granted.

My nephew and his wife have served four and three tours in Iraq, respectively, and my foster son served in Iraq and came home suffering from PTSD.

Thank you to Sergeant Eckerson, and God bless all the other brave men and women in uniform for their service to our country.

TAXES ON AMERICAN-MADE ENERGY ARE TAXES ON ALL AMERICANS

(Mr. BOUSTANY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BOUSTANY. Madam Speaker, last night the President tried to make a case for his \$3.6 trillion budget. He suggested that more than \$30 billion in new taxes on America's energy producers would not cost American jobs.

I represent a number of America's small energy producers and the support companies, service workers, and others who responsibly provide the energy powering America. The President's budget would force them out of business and send their work and their jobs overseas.

But this is what the President failed to tell those listening last night. His new energy taxes would hit every single American. The new taxes in his carbon program would increase electricity prices, the price at the pump, and home heating oil costs.

Republicans believe we must be good stewards of the environment, and Louisiana workers prove every day that we can produce energy in an environmentally responsible way.

Let's work together to create jobs and keep energy costs down.

The President's plan to hike taxes on Americans who are already struggling with a slow economy is just the wrong way to be going. Let's make America competitive again and get Americans working. That's the kind of stimulus Americans and our economy really need.

TAMPA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT FUNDING

(Ms. CASTOR of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, last month when we worked with President Obama to adopt an economic recovery plan, our intent was to put people back to work. Well, the recovery plan is just now starting to work, and I'm very pleased to report that this week I joined the director of the Tampa International Airport to announce that \$8 million from the recovery plan will come to the Tampa Bay area to reconstruct our fabulous airport. In particular, we are going to reconstruct a taxiway and begin construction on a new north terminal.

Now, this is absolutely vital because the unemployment rate in my hometown now is about 10 percent. So when we can put folks back to work, the utilities, especially in the hard-hit construction sector, rebuilding this fabulous economic engine in my community, I know that it is going to have a ripple effect throughout my local economy.

This is what's happening all across America. So as we recover and put people back to work, America will be stronger than ever before.